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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/54/587/Add.2)*]

54/208. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[1] and the Habitat Agenda,[2] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

Recalling also its resolutions 52/190 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling further its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 concerning environment and human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,[3]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8).

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to strengthen the capacity of the Centre, in particular the normative area, and to improve the linkages between the normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to exercise effectively its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[3]

3. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and encourages the Executive Director to implement fully, as a matter of urgency, all administrative and financial management reforms, as part of the ongoing revitalization process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, including, in particular, improving the status of women in the Secretariat, and bearing in mind the need for recruitment of qualified staff in accordance with the relevant United Nations regulations and rules;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with resolution 53/242;

6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country;

8. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001, and reiterates the recognition by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session that this implementation will require substantial additional funding and its request to the Executive Director to raise more funds from all sources and to broaden the donor base;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the Centre for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

10. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to discuss human settlements issues at its coordination segment in 2000 and to have as its sectoral theme the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council on the question, along with the recommendations of the Council thereon, be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)";

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[4] See Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999.

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

87th plenary meeting
22 December 1999